

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SP-02 AID-05 EB-07 NSC-05 CIEP-01

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 PA-01

PRS-01 USIA-06 L-02 AGR-05 EA-06 AF-06 ERDA-05 NRC-05

FEAE-00 OES-03 /107 W

----- 089670

R 171800Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8734

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, EEC, GW

SUBJECT: EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING -- ADDITIONAL GERMAN  
REACTIONS

REF: BONN 4161, 4163

1. IN A MEETING WITH EMBASSY ECONCOUNSELOR, MFA DEPUTY  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY LAUTENSCHLAGER GAVE A VERY FAVORABLE  
ASSESSMENT OF THE FIRST EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING IN  
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DUBLIN. HE SAID THAT THE PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE BEFORE

THIS CHIEFS OF GOVERNMENT MEETING WAS TO REACH AN AGREEMENT ON A FORMULA THAT WAS TO MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR THE WILSON GOVERNMENT TO RECOMMEND TO THE BRITISH VOTER A "YES" VOTE IN THE REFERENDUM ON REMAINING IN THE COMMUNITY. FROM THAT VIEWPOINT, LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID, THE COUNCIL MEETING WAS A CLEAR SUCCESS. HE REJECTED CRITICISM OF THE SUMMIT, WHICH HAD APPEARED IN THE PARTS OF THE GERMAN PRESS, AS SNIPING OF NEWSMEN WHO MAY NOT HAVE HAD A FREE RUN OF THE CONFERENCE SITE IN A MANNER THAT THEY ARE USED TO IN BRUSSELS. CRITICISM THAT CHIEFS OF STATE SHOULD BE SPENDING THEIR TIME HAGGLING OVER ISSUES WHICH SHOULD BE RESOLVED BY LOWER LEVEL OFFICIALS MISSES THE MARK, LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID. NOT INFREQUENTLY, HE ASSERTED, MATTERS IN THE COMMUNITY TRANSCEND THE COMPETENCE OF SINGLE MINISTERS (FOREIGN, FINANCE, AGRICULTURE, ETC.) AND OF NECESSITY THESE MUST BE REFERRED TO THE HEADS OF GOVERNMENTS FOR RESOLUTION. THE QUESTION OF UK RENEGOTIATION WAS SUCH AN ISSUE. VIEWED IN THAT LIGHT, THE DUBLIN MEETING CAN BE REGARDED AS A FIRST MEETING OF A QUASI EUROPEAN CABINET, WHICH, AS FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER SAID IN THE BUNDESTAG, "PASSED ITS BAPTISM OF FIRE." OTHER (LESSER) UK RENEGOTIATION ISSUES COULD AND WERE RESOLVED BELOW THE SUMMIT, IN VARIOUS BRUSSELS FORA, AS FOR EXAMPLE, THE EC REGIONAL FUND, SUGAR IMPORTS TO THE UK, AGRICULTURAL ISSUES IN THE CONTEXT OF CAP NEGOTIATIONS, AND ACP (LOME) AGREEMENT.

2. REGARDING COMPLAINTS OF SOME SMALLER EC MEMBERS THAT THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL MEETING WAS DOMINATED BY THE "BIGS," LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID THAT WHILE IT WAS TRUE THAT THE FRG, UK, AND FRANCE WERE THE PRINCIPAL PARTIES THAT HAD TO AGREE ON THE MODALITIES FOR RESOLVING THE UK RENEGOTIATIONS QUESTION, SMALL MEMBERS (DENMARK, NETHERLANDS) "HAD THEIR FULL DAY IN COURT" WHEN THE SUBJECT OF NEW ZEALAND DAIRY IMPORTS WAS ON THE TABLE.

3. COMMENTING ON THE DUBLIN DECISION TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC HIGH-LEVEL EC ENERGY COMMITTEE UNDER THE FOREIGN MINISTERS, LAUTENSCHLAGER SAID THAT THE IDEA WAS SPRUNG LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ON HIS COLLEAGUES BY THE CHANCELLOR, REFLECTING SCHMIDT'S

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LONG-HELD VIEW THAT ENERGY, ECONOMIC, AND MONETARY PROBLEMS ARE INTIMATELY INTERRELATED AND MUST BE DEALT WITH IN A COORDINATED FASHION. IT IS HOPED THAT THE NEW COMMITTEE CAN PROVIDE ANOTHER LINK BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY, INCLUDING FRANCE, AND THE IEA. LAUTENSCHLAGER DID NOT YET KNOW WHETHER AN MFA REPRESENTATIVE WOULD REPRESENT THE FRG ON THE NEW COMMITTEE. HE CONCEDED THE VALUE OF A "PERSONAL UNION" WITH THE REPRESENTATION IN THE IEA,  
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WHICH HE SAID CAN EASILY BE THE CASE FOR MOST MEMBERS (EXAMPLE DAVIGNON, CHRISTENSEN), EXCEPT FOR THE FRG AND THE UK. HE WAS NOT YET PREPARED TO STATE FLATLY THAT THE MFA WOULD YIELD ON THIS TO THE ECONOMICS MINISTRY (ROHWEDDER), PREFERRING TO STATE FOR NOW THAT BOTH THE PREPCON AND THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE WILL BE ESSENTIALLY FOREIGN POLICY MEETINGS. (IN MEETINGS MARCH 13 WITH UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON, ROHWEDDER AND POEHL (FINMIN) SAID THEY WILL PARTICIPATE FOR FRG IN NEW COMMITTEE.)

4. COMMENT: LAUTENSCHLAGER'S DECIDEDLY UPBEAT EVALUATION BOTH OF THE FORMAT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE RESULTS OF ITS FIRST MEETING SHOULD BE RECOGNIZED AS COMING FROM A DEDICATED "MARKETEER" WHO HAD A MAJOR INPUT IN THE PREPARATION OF THE FRG'S POSITION AND IN FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER'S REPORT ON THE DUBLIN MEETING TO THE BUNDESTAG. HIS SENSE OF SATISFACTION AND GUARDED OPTIMISM ON THE OUTCOME OF THE BRITISH REFERENDUM IS NOT FULLY SHARED BY OTHER FRG SPOKESMEN AND BY PORTIONS OF THE PRESS, WHO ARE CHARY ABOUT BRITISH DEDICATION TO THE CONCEPT OF EUROPEAN UNITY AND WHO QUESTION WHETHER "TOMORROW" THE CONTINENTALS MIGHT NOT WAKE UP TO NEW UK DEMANDS. REFLECTING SUCH SKEPTICISM, A CAUSTIC ARTICLE IN "DIE ZEIT" QUOTES ONE OF THE PARTICIPATING PRIME MINISTERS IN THE DUBLIN MEETING AS FOLLOWS: "IF THEY (THE BRITISH) DON'T WANT TO STAY IN, THEY MAY AS WELL GO; BETTER AN END WITHOUT FEAR THAN FEAR WITHOUT AN END." THIS VIEW WAS SAID TO BE SHARED BY AT LEAST FIVE OTHER PRIME MINISTERS.  
HILLENBRAND

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